

MASTER PROGRAMME IN LOGOPEDICS
“LOGOPEDICAL MANAGEMENT IN VOICE AND FLUENCY DISORDERS”

Educational degree: Master

Professional qualification: Logopedics

Training type: fulltime

Training duration: 1 year (2 semesters)

Enrollment requirements: Bachelor's degree in Logopedics; acquired basic training in the field of assessment/therapy of children and adults with voice and fluency disorders.

Logopedics is developing as a higher education specialty at South-West University for more than 25 years. Nowadays this is a well-established specialty within the scientific direction of Public Health, successfully accredited by the NAEA in year 2015 for a period of 5 years. The Department of Logopedics providing training in the field was opened as an independent one after the separation from Special Education in 2002.

The training is delivered by high-qualified lecturers (professors, assoc. professors, assistant professors with PhD) from the Department and other university units. The staff from Department of Logopedics take part in international programmes for academic exchange and provides lecturers from EU and USA countries.

The curriculum structure is according to the requirements of IALP (International Association of Logopedists and Phoniatriests) and also meets the standards of CPLOL (Standing Liaison Committee of E.U. Speech and Language Therapists and Logopedists).

The high quality of graduates in Logopedics is due to the excellent facilities, equipped with modern diagnostic and therapeutic equipment, Resource Centre (established in 1995), University Stuttering Research Centre (established in 2000) the KayPentax Speech Lab (established in 2007) and the faculty Centre of Logopedics for practice and research (established 2009).

There is a specialized library situated in a Resource Centre, which has a large collection of Bulgarian and foreign publications and periodicals/ journals.

Training is realized through modern interactive methods with the use of multimedia, video, simulations and more. Practical training is carried out in basic specialized institutions, diagnostic centres and university facilities for practical training.

After graduation a Master in Logopedics trained in this Programme should be qualified for diagnostics and delivery of high quality speech and language therapy to clients with a variety of voice and fluency disorders: neurogenic voice disorders, psychogenic voice disorders, functional voice disorders, spasmodic and congenital dysphonia, phonic traumas and trauma connected dysphonia, laryngectomy, voice resonance disorders, stuttering, stammering, mixed types, fluency disorders in neurological conditions and genetic syndromes.

The graduated in Master in Logopedics speech therapist should be able to implement his knowledge and practical skills in different types of settings - diagnostic and rehabilitation units, as well as ENT clinics, neurological and rehabilitation centres.

CURRICULUM

Year 1			
Fall Semester	ECTS credits	Spring Semester	ECTS credits
1. Medical Aspects of Voice Disorders	5.0	1. Logopedical Management of Voice Disorders (3B)	3.0
2. Voice Diagnostics and Diagnostics of Voice Disorders	5.0	2. Logopedical Management in Fluency Disorders	4.0
3. Logopedical Management of Voice Disorders (3A)	6.0	3. Elective course	2.0
4. Medical, Psychological and Linguistic Aspects of Speech Fluency Disorders	5.0	4. Clinical practice in Logopedics	6.0
5. Elective course	3.0	5. Diploma thesis and Practical State Exam	15.0
6. Clinical practice in Logopedics	6.0		
	Total 30		Total 30
Elective courses - group I (students choose one course)		Elective courses - group II (students choose one course)	
1. Rehabilitation and Management of Persons With Laryngectomy	3.0	1. Early Childhood Stuttering	2.0
2. Family Communication and Adoption of Persons with Voice Disorders	3.0	2. Genetics Aspects of Fluency Disorders	2.0
3. Stastical Methods in Logopedics	3.0		
CREDITS IN TOTAL: 60			

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

I. COMPULSORY COURSES

MEDICAL ASPECTS OF VOICE DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 5

Evaluation form: exam

Semester: fall

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Hours per week: 2l+1s+1p

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The Course on Medical Aspects of Voice Disorders consists of lectures, seminars and practical exercises. It is studied within one semester. It is designed for students of Master of Logopedics.

Course content:

The Speech and language therapist works with people with voice disorders and he/she should be competent in matters of medical topics, terms and procedures in this area. Competent management of patients with voice disorders and proper understanding of the terms and procedures involved in medical management can be useful for speech therapists who provide behavioral modification of abnormal voice habits. This course offers basic information regarding medical procedures in the treatment of voice

disorders, including medical environment, training and certification procedures (medical diagnosis, medical therapy, surgical procedures).

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures; demonstrations by multimedia, TV, projector; discussions; observation practices. The examination is conducted in written form. The current control during the seminars and workshops is carried out by the lecturer and includes three tests, self case studies on the problems of each of the studied groups of persons and a paper on problems of lectures. The student shall be admitted to the final exam, if a positive evaluation of the abstract, case studies and successfully passed both tests i.e.. answer correctly at least 75% of the questions /. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score.

VOICE DIAGNOSTICS AND DIAGNOSTICS OF VOICE DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 5

Evaluation form: exam

Semester: fall

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Hours per week: 2l+1s+1p

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The proposed course on "Voice diagnostics and diagnostics of voice disorders" aims to provide the students of Master programme in logopedics a wide range of knowledge in the development of voice and identification of voice disorders, methods of examination and registration of voice function.

Course content:

Appropriate description of the morphology and physiology of phonation and development of voice in different age periods. Special attention is paid to the quality of voice and its acoustic characteristic, a classification of voice disorders is offered. The diagnostic tools, methods for the study of voice function and modern equipment are consistently presented. The problem for the early identification of voice pathology is discussed in a separate section, paying attention to screening methods for its early diagnosis. Attention is paid on the clinical medical aspects of voice pathology in which a starting thesis suggests the need to combine prevention, identification and treatment in special diagnostic and therapeutic teams.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures; demonstrations by multimedia, TV, projector; discussions; observation practices. The current control during the seminars and workshops is carried out by the lecturer. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score. The exam is in written form.

LOGOPEDICAL MANAGEMENT OF VOICE DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 6+3

Evaluation form: exam

Semester: fall and spring

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Hours per week: 2l+1s+1p; 1l+1s+0p

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The course consists of lectures, seminars and practical exercises and it's taught in two semesters. Specific competencies for students relate to the results of the 3-year European project "Network for tuning standards and quality of education programmes in Speech and Language Therapy / Logopaedics across

Europe (NetQues): a multilateral academic and professional network.” According to the results of this project students should have the following specific competencies related to the diagnosis and identification of the voice needs of the client:

- ✓ To be able to discuss the diagnosis and interventions in voice disorders (VD)
- ✓ To be able to compile reports related to diagnosis and differential diagnosis of VD
- ✓ To identify the influence of different situations, trail factors on customers with VD
- ✓ To analyze and interpret the results of the voice diagnostic, to integrate this information carefully and precisely into the personal history and other relevant sources in the received data

Course content:

Definition, etiology, mechanism, classification, diagnosis and differential diagnosis in dysphonia due to phonotrauma; Functional, psychogenic and spasmodic dysphonia, congenital dysphonia, neurogenic dysphonia, laryngectomy and disorders of voice resonance. Boone program in treatment of voice pathology in children and adults. In the practical course students will monitor forms of voice disorders in phoniatric and / or speech therapy offices of specialized clinical institutions. The goal is to form and develop skills for speech diagnostics (using test tools) and to implement effective speech therapy methods and techniques in the above types of pathology.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures; demonstrations by multimedia, TV, projector; discussions; observation practices. The current control during the seminars and workshops is carried out by the assistant, and includes two tests, self case studies in speech therapy sessions with each of the studied groups of people with voice disorders and a paper on problems studied during lectures. The student shall be admitted to the final exam, if a positive evaluation of the abstract, case studies and successfully passed both tests i.e. answer correctly at least 60% of the questions /. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score. The examination is conducted in written form.

MEDICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL AND LINGUISTIC ASPECTS OF SPEECH FLUENCY DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 5

Hours per week: 2l+1s+1p

Evaluation form: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: fall

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Annotation:

The course on "Medical, psychological and linguistic aspects of speech fluency disorders" aims summarizing all the knowledge that can hardly be attributed exclusively to disfluent disorders of speech only in terms of speech therapy. Educational content is separated into three modules. The first module is about diseases, psycho-physiological and neurological problems related to the etiology, hereditary disease and vulnerability of children with stutter and splutter. The second module focuses on personal characteristics of stuttering, subject to their socialization in the family and school environment. The correction of behavior and strengthen self-esteem and "I" as the most vulnerable sectors of socialization. The third module is connected with the peculiarities of language and speech behavior of persons with impaired fluency. Knowing about these crises supports the process of inclusion of stuttering people, regardless of age. The course on "Medical, psychological and linguistic aspects of speech fluency disorders" is connected thematically with all courses that include knowledge of the medical, psychological and linguistic aspects of speech.

Course content:

Lectures are divided into three modules, which cover medical, psychological and linguistic aspects of fluency disorders. The focus is directed towards diseases and genetic conditions which determine the occurrence of these disorders and those problems that treat the occurrence of secondary neuroses in people with stuttering and fluency disorders. Characteristics of personality formation in these persons. Linguistic peculiarities mostly in terms of paralinguistic problems related to communication of the stuttering people and their social adaptation in the family and school environment.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures; demonstrations by multimedia, TV, projector; discussions; observation practices. The current control during the seminars and workshops is performed by lecturer and assistant. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score. The examination is conducted in written form.

CLINICAL PRACTICE IN LOGOPEDICS

ECTS credits: 6**Hours per week:** 0l+0s+5p**Evaluation form:** exam**Type of exam:** practical**Semester:** fall**Supervision:** Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport**Annotation:**

Required by the curriculum of Logopedics, Master's program "Logopedical Management in Voice and Fluency Disorders". Students should have a basic background on communication disorders: voice and fluency disorders.

Course content:

This training course includes diagnosis and therapy of voice and fluency disorders and management skills of speech therapy resources. The Master in Logopedics should have the ability to diagnose and effectively implement logopedic impact on:

- voice disorders
- fluency disorders.

Training and evaluation techniques: Practical exam in Speech therapy office

LOGOPEDICAL MANAGEMENT IN FLUENCY DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 4**Hours per week:** 2l+1s+0p**Evaluation form:** exam**Type of exam:** written**Semester:** spring**Supervision:** Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport**Annotation:**

The Course on "Logopedical management in fluency disorders" consists of lectures and seminars, and is studied within one semester. Contains two distinct parts – the first one examines problems of stuttering and cluttering and the second one - different types of impaired fluency, cited below. It is designed for students of Master in Logopedics.

Course content:

Provides knowledge that relate to various aspects of diagnosis and differential diagnosis, speech and language work in the aforementioned speech pathology. In practical course is provided monitoring of fluency disorders in speech therapy offices of specialized clinical institutions. The goal is to form and develop skills for speech diagnostics (using test tools) and application of effective speech therapy methods and techniques in the above types of pathology.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures; demonstrations by multimedia, TV, projector; discussions; observation practices. The examination is conducted in written form. The current control during the seminars and workshops is carried out by the assistant, and includes two tests, self case studies in speech therapy sessions with each of the studied groups of persons with fluency disorders and a paper on problems studied during lectures. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score.

CLINICAL PRACTICE IN LOGOPEDICS

ECTS credits: 6**Evaluation form:** exam**Semester:** spring**Supervision:** Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport**Hours per week:** 0l+0s+5p**Type of exam:** practical**Annotation:**

Required by the curriculum of Logopedics, Master's program "Logopedical Management in Voice and Fluency Disorders". Students should have a basic background on communication disorders: voice and fluency disorders.

Course content:

This training course includes diagnosis and logopedic therapy of these voice and fluency disorders:

- neurogenic, psychogenic or functional voice disorders
- spasmodic and congenital dysphonia
- fonotrauma and traumatic related dysphonia
- laryngectomy
- voice resonance disorders
- stuttering
- cluttering
- fluency disorders in neurological diseases
- fluency disorders in genetic syndromes.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Practical exam in Speech therapy office

DIPLOMA THESIS AND PRACTICAL STATE EXAM

ECTS credits: 15**Evaluation form:** exam**Semester:** spring**Supervision:** Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport**Hours per week:** n.a.**Type of exam:** practical

Annotation:

Compulsory course within the curriculum of Logopedics, Master's program "Logopedical Management in Voice and Fluency Disorders". Prior conditions: All term examinations should be passed. The topic of the thesis should be discussed on a Department meeting. Science supervisor is determined by choice of all members of the Department. All theses are reviewed.

Course content:

Diploma thesis should contain research elements and experiments in diagnostics and speech therapy as well as exploring mental characteristics of persons with neurologically based communication disorders. The student shows that it is theoretically and practically ready for realization in practice, knows the activities of the therapist and has its own approach to solving practical and theoretical problems.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: Consultations. Evaluation: an open defence with a State examination commission, which has been determined by a Rector's order.

II. ELECTIVE COURSES

REHABILITATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PERSONS WITH LARYNGECTOMY

ECTS credits: 3

Hours per week: 2l+1s+0p

Evaluation form: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: fall

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Annotation:

The course on "Rehabilitation and management of persons with laryngectomy" presents students a wide range of knowledge about ongoing rehabilitation of laryngectomy.

Course content:

Complete statement of the problem of voice rehabilitation and management in laryngectomy. Complete and appropriate description of clinical symptoms, diagnosis and research of malignant neoplasms and foremost of laryngeal cancer. Referred to the methods of treatment - conservative, surgical and rehabilitation. In the remaining few sections a complete picture of the purpose, nature, types and methods of voice rehabilitation laryngectomy is given. Focus is on the problem of integration and professional adaptation of these patients.

Training and evaluation techniques:

The training of students includes lectures and seminars. All lectures and seminars are mandatory to obtain the required knowledge, skills and habits. Some of the workshops are held in otorhinolaryngological hospitals equipped with modern medical equipment and accordingly available patients.

Methods of instruction: lectures; demonstrations by multimedia, TV, projector. The examination is conducted in written form.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION AND ADOPTION OF PERSONS WITH VOICE DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 3

Hours per week: 2l+1s+0p

Evaluation form: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: fall

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Annotation:

The course on "Family communication and adoption of persons with voice disorders" provides an important part of the professional competence of Master of Logopedics - the ability to interact with the families of persons with voice pathology, to restore or possibly preserve prosperous family status and present family as a partner in the interventions. It focuses on the essence of phenomena adaptation and communication, on the family with defined roles, functions, priorities, problems - in the context of the systematic approach and the theory of family life (stages of development of the family). Models for family diagnosis are proposed, based on the understanding of family interactions; research, evaluation, intervention and planning of care; to communicate with other institutions; building partnerships with family at work in individual cases of voice pathology.

Course content:

Focuses on the nature of the phenomena of "adaptation" and "communication", on the family roles, functions, priorities, the problems in the context of the systematic approach and theory of family life (stages of development of the family). Models for family diagnosis are proposed, which are based on the understanding of family interactions; research, evaluation, intervention and planning of care; communication with other institutions; building partnerships with family at work in individual cases with voice pathology.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures, discussions, demonstrations (video projections, slides, multimedia). The examination is conducted in written form.

STATISTICAL METHODS IN LOGOPEDICS

ECTS credits: 3

Hours per week: 3l+2s+1p

Evaluation form: exam

Type of exam: written

Semester: fall

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Annotation:

The course "Statistical methods in logopedics" aims to introduce students to the possibilities of specialized statistical packages for processing of experimental data and their application in practice. The course includes basic principles of modeling of empirical data and the possibilities of modern technologies for their realization (MS EXCEL, SPSS and STATISTICA, etc.).

Course content:

Data and presentation of data in modern IT. Measures of central tendency. Measures of dispersion. Point and interval estimates. Confidence intervals. Hypothesis testing, Statistical significance. Multidimensional statistical analysis. Regression analysis. Factor analysis. Modeling programs (simulations).

Training and evaluation techniques:

Lecturer presents students with theory in different subjects and principles of their application in practice. During laboratory classes students discuss topics under the guidance of the teacher and apply lessons

learned at work in the environment. Students learn about practical problems and methods for their solution. In planned hours for extracurricular work students should develop self practical tasks. Preparing students for the exam is done on the basis of lectures, exercises and primary literature sources. Additional materials can be used - additional literature and other sources, relevant to the subject.

EARLY CHILDHOOD STUTTERING

ECTS credits: 2

Evaluation form: exam

Semester: spring

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Hours per week: 11+1s+0p

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The proposed course of lectures and seminars is taught in one semester. It is designed for students of Master of Logopedics. It includes one separate part: early stuttering. Specific skills that students need to learn are related to the application of the results of the project *NetQues (Network for tuning standards and quality of education nprogrammes in Speech and Language Therapy / Logopaedics across Europe: a multilateral academic and professional network)*. Students should acquire the following specific skills: analysis and interpretation of the results of the evaluation and their integration with the history of the disorder and other sources of information; preparation of oral and written report of the evaluation results, including analysis and interpretation of assessment information; establishing the impact of the disorder on the psycho-social well-being, social and medical status of the child with impaired fluency of speech; understanding the reasons and connections that underlie specific therapeutic methods; awareness of the role of parents and teachers in planning therapy in accordance with their competence; application of the appropriate therapeutic techniques, using appropriate materials and instrumentation equipment; collection of quantitative and qualitative information to assess the effectiveness of therapy; understanding the concepts of "efficiency" and "effectiveness" in connection with speech and language therapy.

Course content:

Stuttering in early childhood - basic concepts. Start of stuttering. Characteristics of fluency disorder based on early stuttering. Development of stuttering. Development of phonological abilities. Language abilities of stuttering child. Motor, psychological and cognitive aspects. Diagnosis of early stuttering. Including parents and counseling. Logopedical management in early stuttering.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures, discussions, demonstrations (video projections, slides, multimedia). The examination is conducted in written form. The current control during the seminars and workshops is carried out by the lecturer and assistant including two tests, seaprte case studies on the problems of each of the studied groups of persons and a paper on problems studied during lectures. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score.

GENETICS ASPECTS OF FLUENCY DISORDERS

ECTS credits: 2

Evaluation form: exam

Semester: spring

Supervision: Department of Logopedics, Faculty of Public Health, Health Care and Sport

Hours per week: 11+1s+0p

Type of exam: written

Annotation:

The proposed course of lectures and seminars is taught in one semester. It is designed for students of Master of Logopedics. The proposed course includes one separate part: genetics in stuttering. In recent years the interest of scientists to the genetic influence on stuttering increases.

Course content:

Incidence and prevalence of stuttering. Illinois genetic research in genetics-related fluency disorders. A study of family patterns in stuttering. (Presentation of family history. Stuttering in twins. Genetics and subtypes). Fluency disorders connected with Down syndrome. Fluency disorders on Fragile x chromosome. Fluency disorders on Prader Willi syndrome. Fluency disorders on Tourette syndrome and Turner syndrome.

Training and evaluation techniques:

Methods of instruction: lectures, discussions, demonstrations (video projections, slides, multimedia). The examination is conducted in written form. The current control during the seminars and workshops is carried out by the lecturer and assistant including one test, separate case studies on the problems studied during lectures and one abstract. Estimates of the current control are taken into account by the lecturer of the discipline in shaping the final score.